

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 19 are pending in this application. None have been allowed.

At the top of page 2 of the Action, the Examiner sets a Restriction Requirement and identifies the following four Groups:

- I. Claims 1-5 and 18-19 drawn to products of Formula I. If this group is elected, a further election of a single disclosed species is also required.
- II. Claims 6-7 drawn to a method of treating an inflammatory disease. If this group is elected, a further election of a single disclosed species is also required.
- III. Claims 8-9 and 10-17, drawn to methods of treating cyclooxygenase mediated diseases, classified in the various subclasses of class 514. If this group is elected, a further election of a single disclosed species is also required. Further restriction based on the election may be made.
- IV. Claims 10-12 and 17-17, drawn to a method of reducing the risk of a thrombotic cardiovascular event, classified in the various subclasses of class 514. If this group is elected, a further election of a single disclosed species is also required.

At this time, applicants elect Group I, with partial traverse. Moreover, applicants choose the compound of Example 1, beginning at page 21, as the elected species. Claims reading on the elected species are as follows: 1-5 and 18-19. As will be appreciated all of the method claims read on the use of the elected species.

37 CFR 1.475 states that a national stage application containing claims to different categories of invention will be considered to have unity of invention if the claims drawn only to one of the following combination of categories:

- a. a product and a process specially adapted for the manufacture of said product; or
- b. a product and a process of use of said product; or
- c. a product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and a use of the said product; or
- d. a process and an apparatus or means specially designed for carrying out the said process; or
- e. a product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and an apparatus or means specially designed for carrying out the said process.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present situation fits into category b. Moreover, both the compound claims and the method of use claims share novel compounds of claim 1 as a "technical feature". Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that once allowable compounds of Group I are identified, the methods of use should be re-joined to the extent that they are directed to the use of allowable compounds or pharmaceutical compositions of Group I.

Having addressed the outstanding issues, Applicants respectfully request early examination and allowance of the claims. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below if such would advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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